ing which time intensive teaching of Hindi/English, both as language subjects and co-media, will be undertaken. Through skilful use of the media and of modern techniques of teaching languages, switch-over to Hindi/English after VII or VIII class would present no difficulty. Thereafter, the common medium would be Hindi/English in all Navodaya Vidyalayas.

**Prevalence of 'Sickle Moon' disease in tribal areas of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa**

*253. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a disease called 'Sickle Moon' is pravelent amount the tribals mainly in the interior Blocks of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa in which victim's body gradually takes the shape of sickled moon and the person dies in the absence of any cure;

(b) if so, what are the latest details about the said disease and its victims; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far to investigate and ascertain the causes and cures of this killer disease?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Some limited genetic research studies conducted have revealed the presence of 'Sickle-Cell' cases among the tribals.

(b) As per 1981 Census about 1.6 lakhs tribal population suffer from Sickle-Cell diseases.

(c) Indian Council of Medical Research through its Regional Medical Research Centre, Jabalpur, National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi and All India Institute of Medical Sciences are conducting studies to find out the causes of genetic disease. Preventive, promotive and curative health services are being provided to the people in rural areas including tribals by establishing a net work of Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres, Additional Primary Health Centres, Subsidiary Health Centres and Sub-Centres.

**Grounding of a Dornier aircraft at Calcutta**

*254. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Vayudoot Dornier aircraft has been grounded at Calcutta for the past one year;

(b) if so, what is the snag in the aircraft;

(c) what are the parts which have been removed from the aircraft and what is the cost involved; and

(d) what is the future of this aircraft and whether there are plans to fly it again?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) and (b) Dornier VT-EIP aircraft which had suffered structural damage following an incident has been grounded at Calcutta since 9th August, 1987.

(c) While some parts and components which would have deteriorated if they had been left on the aircraft were removed for safe keeping, rotabls worth Rs. 60 lakhs approximately were removed to maintain other aircraft in serviceable condition. This became necessary as the usual spares inventary of Vayudoot had depleted due to the long turn around time taken by the manufacturers of the aircraft and engine for repairs of rotables.